

Question Number	Question	Response
1	What types of firms is the City looking to work with? Engineering firm, broadband planning consultant, end to end solutions provider, etc.?	The City has already engaged a broadband planning consultant, but we are interested in responses from any firms who believe they can contribute to the City's vision for ubiquitous broadband, as described in the RFI.
2	Has any work already been done on research for broadband availability, utilization infrastructure development? If so, could you make this information available to the respondents prior to RFP submission?	The City is conducting informal research and working with our consultants to understand more about the existing competitive landscape for broadband in Bloomington. The City may conduct more formal surveys or release additional information prior to releasing an RFP, if the City chooses to release an RFP. At this stage, the City is interested in responses that discuss potential business models and approaches to realizing the goals and vision outlined in the RFI. The City is not looking for detailed business models, financial forecasts, or engineering plans that require a thorough understanding of existing broadband availability or demand at this time. However, if proposed business models are contingent upon certain threshold levels of demand or other criteria, those criteria and thresholds should be clearly stated in the RFI response.
3	Has a consulting firm already been assisting the City in this effort?	Yes, the City has engaged CTC Technology & Energy.
4	Has the City conducted any public outreach to ascertain community needs? If so, can this be shared?	Next generation broadband was a recent campaign topic of discussion at numerous forums and meetings. The City has held a public symposium on the topic and an IT Town Hall meeting where the topic was discussed. At this stage, the City is interested in responses that discuss potential business models and approaches to realizing the goals and vision outlined in the RFI. The City is not looking for detailed business models, financial forecasts, or engineering plans that require a thorough understanding of existing broadband availability or demand at this time. However, if proposed business models are contingent upon certain threshold levels of demand or other criteria, those criteria and thresholds should be clearly stated in the RFI response.
5	Is GIS data from the City available?	Information about the City's GIS resources can be found at: https://bloomington.in.gov/gis
6	Are there agreements in place with utility pole owners and the City?	The City does not have agreements in place with utility pole owners.
7	Can you briefly describe the City's current broadband infrastructure?	The City of Bloomington maintains 17 miles of conduit, including an 8 mile internal ring in the core of the downtown. This infrastructure is referred to as the BDU or Bloomington Digital Underground. Maps are available on the City's website. There are no definitive expansion plans at this time; this RFI process will guide decision making on BDU expansion. That being said, at this stage, the City is interested in responses that discuss potential business models and approaches to realizing the goals and vision outlined in the RFI. The City is not looking for detailed business models, financial forecasts, or engineering plans that require a thorough understanding of existing broadband availability or demand at this time. However, if proposed business models are contingent upon certain threshold levels of demand or other criteria, those criteria and thresholds should be clearly stated in the RFI response.

8	Has the City secured any financing for this potential work or are they looking for options from RFI responses?	Vendor responses must include answers to the financial responsibilities questions in Appendix B.
9	Is the City willing to successfully obtain "Broadband Ready Community" certification from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation?	The City is not currently seeking to obtain the "Broadband Ready Community" certification from the IEDC.
10	Is the City willing to appoint a single point of contact for all matters related to broadband development projects?	Yes.
11	Is the City willing to establish procedures to allow for the electronic submission of all forms, applications, and documentation required for a broadband development project?	The City is willing to consider establishing procedures to allow for the electronic submission of all forms, applications, and documentation required for a broadband development project, but it does not currently have the necessary software systems in place.
12	Is the City willing to require that all permit applications are approved or denied within 10 business days after they are filed?	The City will meet all State and City statutory requirements and make its best efforts to be as efficient as possible and ensure a timely review of all complete permit applications.
13	Is the City willing to insure that all inspections related to a broadband project will be completed in a timely and expeditious manner?	Yes.
14	Is the City willing to prohibit requiring the designation of a final contractor to complete a broadband project?	Not at this time. The City has an interest in understanding who is conducting work in its rights of way, and it is unclear how this request will further City goals or protect its interests.
15	Is the City willing to prohibit imposing a fee to review an application or to issue a permit on a broadband project?	The City is willing to examine its fee structure and seek to tie fees to reimbursement of City costs associated with the application review and inspection process.
16	Is the City willing to prohibit imposing a seasonal moratorium on the issuance of permits for a project?	The City has imposed no such requirements in the past. Although unlikely, the City may wish to impose seasonal moratoriums in the future if circumstances warrant.
17	Is the City willing to prohibit discriminating among communications service providers or utilities with respect to granting access to public rights-of-way, infrastructure and poles, river and bridge crossings, and any other physical assets owned or controlled by the City?	The City will comply with all State laws and local ordinances as to use of its public rights of way.
18	With current ordinances in place, what flexibility does the City have to make changes to the permitting and approval process?	The City Engineer has some limited discretion but most changes to permitting and approval processes in City ordinances require approval of the Bloomington City Council.
19	Will the City agree to an administrative approval process for pre-approved small cell designs?	The City will review any processes that vendors propose in their responses and consider how those processes may help the City realize the goals outlined in the RFI.
20	Will the City require local property owners to provide the ISP access to properties – both MDU and SFU? Access meaning space for equipment and a path for placing facilities.	The City encourages respondents to suggest various approaches to working with MDU owners and/or other stakeholders to further the goals outlined in the RFI. The City is particularly interested in model policies or approaches that have been successful in other jurisdictions.
21	Will the City coordinate with property owners for access to the properties?	The City encourages respondents to suggest various approaches to working with MDU owners and/or other stakeholders to further the goals outlined in the RFI. The City is particularly interested in model policies or approaches that have been successful in other jurisdictions.

22	Will the City provide incentives for MDU property owners/operators to provide building access?	The City encourages respondents to suggest various approaches to working with MDU owners and/or other stakeholders to further the goals outlined in the RFI. The City is particularly interested in model policies or approaches that have been successful in other jurisdictions.
23	What is the City's process or level of assistance to the Service Provider to gain right of access or attachment rights in/on MDU properties (or multi-tenant buildings) to provide network equipment and wiring within buildings?	The City encourages respondents to suggest various approaches to working with MDU owners and/or other stakeholders to further the goals outlined in the RFI. The City is particularly interested in model policies or approaches that have been successful in other jurisdictions.
24	Will the City expedite handling of applications for WiFi hotspot installations on City-owned poles and property? What is the service level commitment the City will provide in terms of processing time, ease of filing, and assistance regarding permit applications?	WiFi is not a focus of this RFI. The City will review any processes or requests for assistance that vendors propose in their responses and consider how those processes or requests may help the City realize the goals outlined in the RFI.
25	Will the City provide information that clearly identifies any plant of fiber existing or to be constructed in the City's long term plan?	See question 7.
26	Can you provide any more information about project goal #9 "Facilitate a local broadband marketplace that accepts, accelerates, and encourages competition"? Is this another way to address the goal of open access? Or is it something else?	The City seeks to promote a thriving, competitive broadband marketplace that ensures consumers have a choice among communications service and application providers. The City is not interested in models that would limit consumer choices among providers. "Open access" policies and various approaches to structural separation can further this goal, but the City is not bound to any particular approach at this time.
27	Can you provide information on any operating open access networks that would be examples of the type of implementation desired?	The City is aware of various operator models that can be used to create competition, all of which have been implemented with mixed results in various jurisdictions across the world. The City is not set on a particular operating model at this time, but respondents must address how their proposed model will achieve the goals of promoting competition and ensuring that consumers have access to a range of affordable options for advanced, robust broadband services and applications.
28	Do you have the total road footage within the Bloomington city limits?	City maintained streets: 237.6 miles State maintained streets: 24.3 miles IU maintained streets: 6.2 miles Developer maintained streets: 3.5 miles (public ROW not accepted by City yet) Private streets: 25.3 miles Total: 296.9 miles
29	It was mentioned at one point that the City was going to do its own estimate of the costs of the build. If and when that is completed, will that information be made public?	The City will share cost estimates and other information prepared by its broadband planning consultant, but the City does not expect this information to be available prior to the deadline for RFI responses.
30	Does the City plan to pursue Indiana's Broadband Ready designation?	The City is not currently seeking to obtain the "Broadband Ready Community" certification from the IEDC.